

SonScriber

The monthly newsletter of Indian River Presbyterian Church

Indian River Presbyterian Church

is an ECO Congregation,
A Covenant Order of Evangelical Presbyterians

JULY

2020

Two Worship Services

9:30 am - Contemporary

11:00 am - Traditional

Our Vision

IRPC envisions a movement of the Gospel transforming lives, communities, and the world.

Our Mission

Love God

Love Others

Make Disciples

Church Office:

772-464-4263

2499 Virginia Ave.

Ft. Pierce, FL 34982

Office Hours:

9:00 am -12:00 pm

and 1:00-4:00 pm

Monday – Thursday

Congregational Care Line

(after hours)

772-979-0011

KEEP CURRENT

Logon to IRPCFAMILY.ORG

Campus Wi-Fi choose: IRPC_Guest

Password: irpc1234

Dear IRPC Family,

From the Pastor's Pen 

FALLEN CREATURES IN A FALLEN WORLD

What do the current pandemic and the current social unrest have in common? Our theology tells us that they are both the result of fallenness - fallen creatures in a fallen world. One of these days, the Lord will return. When he does, he will cure all disease and end all injustice. In the meantime, we have to deal with the results of fallenness.

One of the consequences of living in a fallen world is that we must endure diseases and their results. Our society will never be able to completely remove maladies that can cause illness, disabilities, and death, as well as economic stagnation and material deprivation. When we find a vaccine or a cure for one disease, another will arise. We cannot make disease disappear, but we can deal with it aggressively when it does appear.

We as Christians can respond with love to those around us by helping to prevent the spread of the disease and by helping those who are hit hard physically and financially by the disease. And our institutions can look for vaccines and cures whenever diseases arise. Disease is inevitable; our response to disease is a matter of choice.

One of the consequences of living in a fallen world is that we must endure the bad choices of fallen creatures. (The signs of fallenness are on display on multiple sides of the current social unrest.) Our society will never be able to remove irrational hatred from every human heart and replace it with respect and love.

The Bible teaches that the heart is wicked. Only the Lord can make a heart new. The Bible also teaches that the Lord wants us to pursue a just society to restrain evil. He wants us to encourage trusting, loving relationships with all people.

Continued →



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[@irpcfamly](https://www.instagram.com/irpcfamly)

Pastor Joel's Message (continued from page one)



Our institutions can look for ways to address injustice whenever it appears. We can make it costly for people to engage in bad behavior. We cannot make injustice disappear, but we can make it appear less often. To paraphrase a statement I recently heard: Laws are not written to retrain the heart but to restrain the heartless.

Blessings. Joel

Joel Giles
Transitional Pastor

YOU CAN JOIN IN BIBLE TIME ANY TIME

On Monday, June 1st, we began our summer Bible Time reading plan! If you don't have a plan, you can join us to read **LIVING LETTERS** (Romans-Jude). Just 2 chapters a day 5 days a week will take you through all 16 New Testament letters by the end of the summer!

On July 1st, we begin reading the letter to Christians in the region of Galatia – more commonly known as the Book of Galatians.

You can find a copy of the
Summer 2020
Bible Reading Plan
The Living Letters
online at
www.irpcfamly.org,
Connect-Christian Resources-
Daily Bible Reading Plans.

SERMON SERIES: SNAPSHOTS



What do you think of when you hear the word CHURCH? Maybe a building with a steeple and a pulpit? Warm thoughts of a safe place when you were a kid? Not-so-warm thoughts of lots of rules and regulations, or people always asking for money, or even abuse?

There are lots of descriptions of the church in the Bible. We could call them SNAPSHOTS. They focus on a certain aspect of the CHURCH. We continue with SNAPSHOTS as we prepare for the eventual coming of the next Pastor and as we ask: *Where do you fit in the picture?*

THANK YOU PASTOR SEARCH TEAM

The Pastor Search Team (PST) has completed its discernment of God's choice for IRPC's Senior Lead Pastor. The Team extended a call to a young man and it has been accepted. The plan is for him to preach on July 19th after which there will be a Congregational Meeting to consider the PST's recommendation. If approved, it is planned for the new pastor to begin his tenure at IRPC on September 1st.

Many thanks go to the dedicated and diligent efforts of the PST Member: Eric Austin, Alex Hagenbaumer, Maureen McNulty, Meghan Moroz, Virginia Pascoe (Secretary), Denny Passman, Donna Rivett (Chair), Louis Shipper, and David Sowerby.

WHEN WE WELCOME THE NEW PASTOR, LET'S DO SO WITH A SOLID FINANCIAL STATUS

Our general income through May was \$180,489 and our general expenses were \$224,879, leaving us (\$44,389) in the red through the first five months of 2020. We had some reserves, so we are current on all obligations. But we still need to catch up and keep up.

Wouldn't it be great if giving actually went UP instead of DOWN during this crisis?! I have heard of it happening in other churches, and it could happen here! (It may not happen in the average church, but who wants to be average?!) It could be as simple as each household increasing its percentage of giving. If you don't already tithe (give 10% of your income), consider beginning now (or at least moving toward it). When IRPC welcomes a new pastor, let's do so with a solid financial status!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, July 19th at which time IRPC's Covenant Partners will be asked to **consider approving the Pastor Search Team's recommendation** for IRPC's next Lead Pastor. Info about the candidate will be provided by email prior to the July 19th meeting. The time of the meeting remains to be determined at this writing.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR OPENING

Alicia Wallman has served in various ways as a volunteer and a staff member in children's ministry for over 20 years! She feels led to cycle out of her staff role. (She will continue to volunteer in the youth ministry where their son will be this year as a junior in high school.) *MANY THANKS, Alicia, for your good and faithful service through the years!*

We have begun looking for a successor. This is a part-time role (about 20 hours per week) and will involve some teaching, recruiting, scheduling, parental engagement, etc., for ministries to ages 0 through 5th grade. We are seeking candidates for the role both inside and outside the church family. If you know of someone who might be a good candidate, please contact Al Rivett at Al@irpcfamly.org.



**THANK YOU ALICIA
FOR YOUR DEDICATED SERVICE
TO IRPC AND ITS CHILDREN!**

PRAYER REQUESTS

(As of June 24, 2020)

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- *Those who requested their prayer request remain confidential.*
- *Persecuted Christians around the world.*
- *Those who are lost.*
- *The sick and homeless.*
- *Everyone in light of the Coronavirus.*
- *All military men and women including:*
Shannon Arena, Kryss Baker, Jean Fede, Shawn M. Kendig, Jason Schneider, and Vincent Turer.
- *The Grove Church* – which is our IRPC Church Plant, Pastor David Hancock, his Family and Team.
- *IRPC & its prospective new pastor.*

MEMBERS:

Rollin & Joan Ankeny, Dick & Helen Boyd, Beverly Butt, Judy Carlin, John Clegg, C Crawford, Marion Daum, Frank Dyer, Linda Firpo, Sharon George, Dick Goebel, Shirley Hendrick, Roy & Marilyn Hetzel, Dee Jacques, Bill & Carole Kerber, Hal Larned, Carol McGinnis, Roger & Joan Molag, Virginia Pascoe, Rosemary Rawe, Virginia Riddle, Virginia Simmons, Connie & Harold Steel, Suzi Sutherland, Bill Timberman, and June Wauters.

FRIENDS:

Ashley & her baby Sam, Sean Baker, Theo Baumgardner, Steve & Karen Bennett, Bain Biggers, Ellis Brown & her family, Robert Busking, Athena Buck, Manon Carlin, Barbara Cole, Father of C Crawford, Micah Davino, Fred & MaryEllen Donghia, Roger Duvall, Dylan, Michael Erickson, Jamie Freeney, Betty Gardner, Larry Glenn, Mark Hammond, Cruz Hancock, Sam Harrison, Chris Hill, Dale Hinze, Jenny Hutchings & Family, Robert Jacques II, Robert Jacques III, Marilyn Klassen, Bob Kuh, Marlene Lacy, Bill & Sharon Landry, Carrie Lund, Laura, David Metcalf, David Minnear, Donna Moniz, Loise Ogwin, Rica Patterson, Reid Pollard, Patricia Radloff, Tim Rice, Roe, Maury Ross, Denise Roth, Beth Sheets-Hartzog, Bill Shrensel, Frank Sutton, Jamie Sweeney, Paul Testa, Hal Tew, Carl Timberman, Alexa Titherington, Robert Underhill, Grandma Dee Waltz, Stephen Wauters, and Sarah West.



Please pray for our youth and others participating in the July 20-24 mission trip on the Treasure Coast. Pray for safety and a spiritually enriching experience to all who take part in this event.

**GOT THE
CORONAVIRUS
BLUES?**

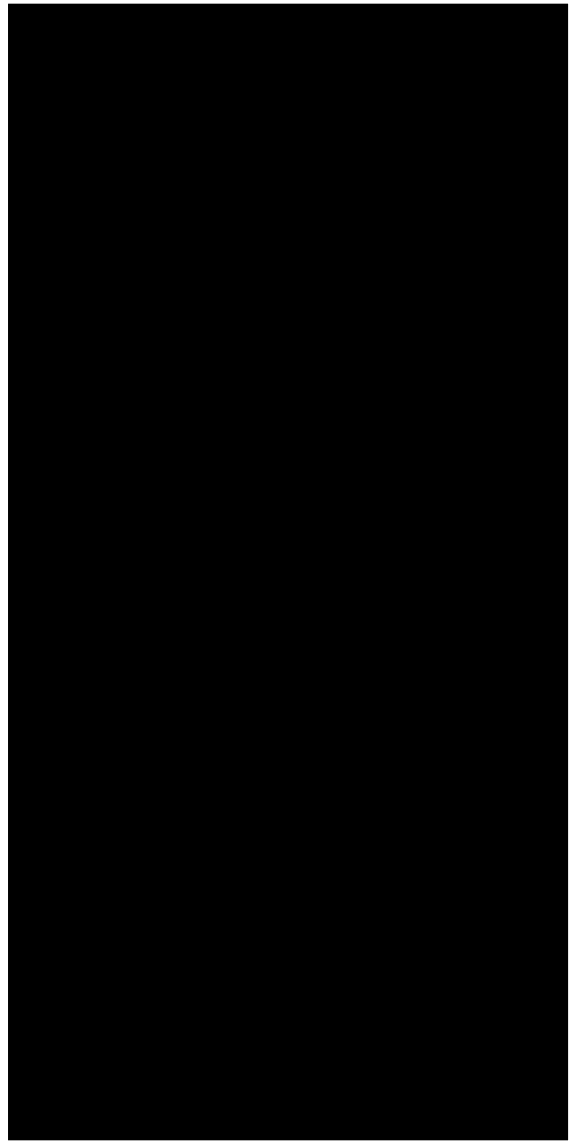
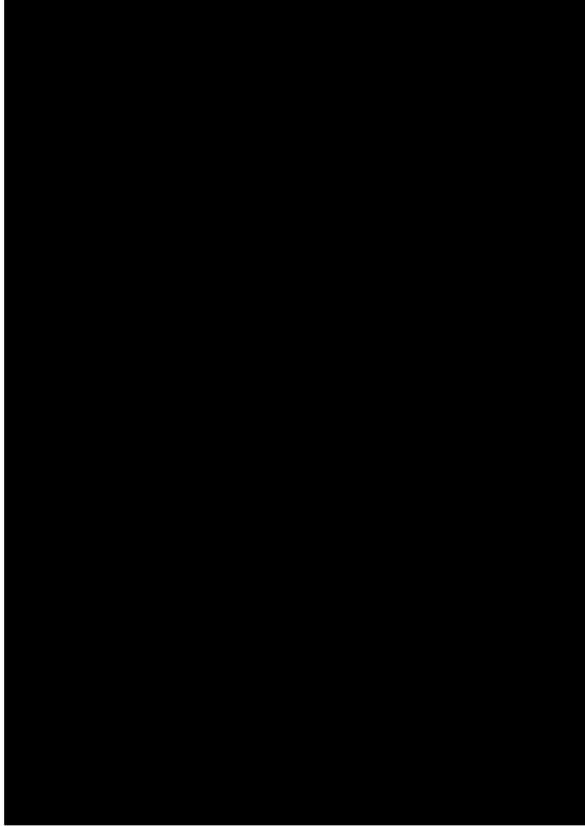


RightNow Media has the answer. You can get quality Christian videos for you and your family — at no cost to you — just for being an IRPC Covenant Partner/Member. It's one small way IRPC can say "thank you" for your support.

RightNow Media has content recommendations for Bible and small group studies, and kid's shows. The IRPC children's ministry and women's and small groups have used RightNow Media

You don't have access to RightNow Media? Why not, it's free! Just contact Al Rivett at (772) 464-4263 ext. 112 or by email at al@irpcfamly.org.

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

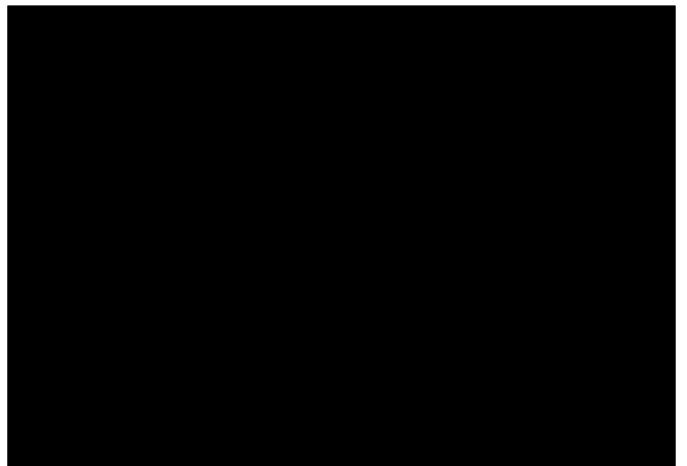
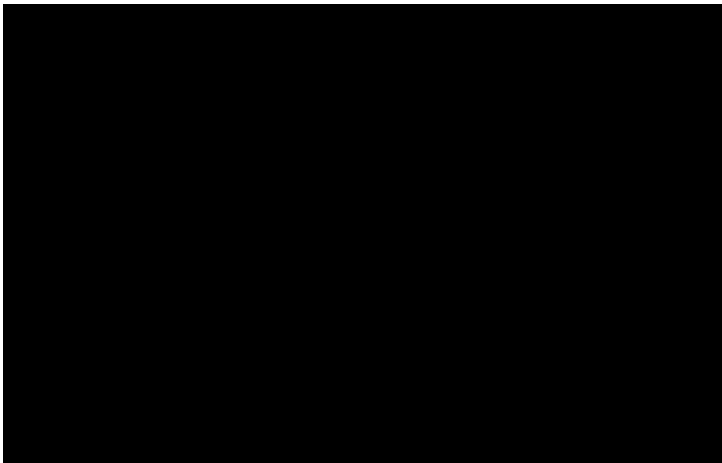


*In Our Thoughts
& Prayers*

A graphic of a sun with rays rising over stylized waves in purple and blue.

Homebound and/or Assisted Living

*Happy
Anniversary!*

A decorative graphic featuring the text 'Happy Anniversary!' in a blue script font, surrounded by various grey and yellow stars and balloons.

Welcome to Women's Ministries . . . in September 2020

You all have been missed due to the coronavirus and the necessary self-quarantine policies. We so look forward to the fellowship of the women in the Circles, to new Circle members, to the continuing study of "Angels, Who They Are and How They Help...What the Bible Reveals," and to being involved in the various IRPC activities. "May the Lord watch between me and thee while we are absent one from another." (Genesis 31:49). . . . Stay tuned!

Have a great summer and see you in September!

Attention Quilters & Crafters

Do you consider yourself handy with a needle? If so, the Quilters & Crafters group offers a standing invitation to anyone with talents in knitting, crocheting, cross stitch, designing crafts, and of course quilting to join them in Room 107 each Wednesday from 9 to 11am.



Pickup

Grab an **empty** baby bottle from your church and fill it with change. Cash and checks are okay too! Please make checks payable to "Care Net."

Your change can change a life!

Drop off

By **Sunday, July 26**, bring your **filled** baby bottle back to drop off at your church!

Thank you for Participating!

Baby Bottle Campaign for **CARE NET**
Text to Give: 772-888-1801 (text amount and follow prompts)
Follow us on Facebook (Friends of Care Net TC) & Instagram (@friendsofcarenetc)



KEEP UP WITH US AT
www.irpcfamly.org
including weekly
sermon messages

CareNet Pregnancy Services of the Treasure Coast is an IRPC Ministry Partner. Support of its Baby Bottle fundraising campaign can also be made through CareNet's website. Make your online contributions by going to www.carenetfriends.com, clicking on the "Donate Now!" button, and choosing "Baby Bottle Campaign" from the drop-down box for "fund".

Mustard Seed Ministries Strives to be The Hands and Feet of Jesus

Bags of groceries, fresh milk, fruits and vegetables and meat are being provided to those who request help from Mustard Seed Ministries' food pantries in Fort Pierce and Port St. Lucie.

The provisions include items to prepare nutritious yet budget-friendly meals for the hundreds of St. Lucie residents still affected by job layoffs and business closures due to the COVID-10 pandemic, as well as the community's low-income individuals and families who regularly have trouble making ends meet.

Though the community has been extremely generous during this time of great need, Mustard Seed program director Stacy Malinowski would appreciate gifts of food items that would help families stretch their meals.

She mentioned a particular need for **cold or hot cereal, rice and pasta, pasta sauce, canned fruit and jelly**. Making filling and tasty meals is a priority: **rice, pasta and beans** can extend many recipes and **cereal – boxed or oatmeal** – is popular with children home for the summer.

"We would gladly welcome any donations," she said, "to meet the extraordinary demand at this time."

Food donations from local stores and restaurants were much appreciated at the beginning of business shutdowns in March. Funds from local grants have been distributed, and though generous donations have been received, some supplies are starting to run low.

"Our goal is always to help St. Lucie County residents get back on their feet," said Malinowski. "Though people are starting to go back to work, most businesses are operating at 25 to 50 percent of their previous staffing. So up to three-quarters of their employees are still not earning any money. Their savings are depleted and the bills are piling up. Many will need help for a while yet. And our pantries are running short of some items."

On a regular basis, Mustard Seed Ministries provides 17 services to our community, including rental and utility payment assistance, diapers, and prescription assistance. Staff members and volunteers are all working in accordance with CDC guidelines for sanitizing, social distancing and other safe practices.



See article to the left for specific needs.



Donations of clothing, household goods and furniture are being accepted again for the Mustard Seed thrift stores, though temporary holds on donations may be implemented occasionally so staff and volunteers are able to process donations safely.

The Mustard Seed food pantries are open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., at 3130 S. U.S. 1 in Fort Pierce, and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at 8311 S. U.S. 1 in Port St. Lucie.

For more information, to volunteer or to donate, call Stacy Malinowski at 772 465-6021.

**GRACEWAY VILLAGE: WE'RE GROWING STRONGER
DURING THESE DAYS OF CRISIS!**

Thanks to the essential support of our many community partners, GraceWay Village has been meeting the challenge of delivering more food, at more locations, to more people as they fight food insufficiency during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the past three months, GraceWay Village has prepared more than 9,500 meals – more than 1,500 meals than in all of 2019.

We have greatly expanded our food-site network to meet the critical demand. Our distribution of dinners has increased from two times a week to five times a week at Hartman Road. In addition, we now are delivering ready-to-go meals to five locations – also five times a week.

What has not changed has been GraceWay Village's commitment to providing quality, nutritious meals. We continue to offer hot entrées, potato and vegetable side dishes, often with donated breads and desserts. These meals are prepared by recently-named Lead Cook Maria Sanchez and her invaluable volunteers. They, along with our volunteer distribution teams, are maintaining CDC's strict health and safety requirements.

As we meet the demands of today, we are planning for tomorrow.

I am pleased to announce that **Chrystal Netherton is our new operations manager**. She will oversee the agency's day-to-day program activities as well as the office, staff, and volunteer functions. Chrystal, a fourth-generation Fort Pierce native, had been a GraceWay Village volunteer. In 2012, she was hired as the sorting room manager before becoming the administrative assistant. Chrystal's natural abilities, along with a humble spirit always willing to learn and grow, will infuse our family with a ray of hope and care as we all work towards restoration from COVID.

In addition, GraceWay Village is in the midst of the planning for the **reopening of Hope's Closet**. Currently, employees from local community agencies contact us when their clients require an emergency allocation of clothing. Our newly established protocols, complying with state mandates, will enable children and their families to safely shop to replace clothing now too small (despite COVID, children keep growing), as well as for clothes for the new school year.

What also has not diminished are our efforts to serve those facing economic hardships and could benefit from our assistance with food and clothing. We encourage you to have them contact GraceWay Village at 772.925.3074. Thank you, and please know that you remain in our prayers.

Cathie Mouring
Executive Director



**For all your “family” info
Visit www.irpefamily.org**